

2 NINETY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
3 SECOND SESSION
4 LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 351

5 Introduced by Beutler, 28

6 PURPOSE: To determine the amount of public scholarship money
7 necessary to meet the financial need of all Nebraska higher
8 education students eligible for need-based state financial aid.

9 In 2001-02, Nebraska ranked thirty-fifth nationally in
10 the amount of need-based financial aid grant dollars per full-time
11 undergraduate enrollment in public and private institutions.
12 Nebraska's state grant programs then reached thirty-seven and
13 one-half percent of students eligible for need-based financial aid.
14 General funds preliminarily allocated for need-based financial aid
15 in 2004-05 totaled \$5,745,794. An additional \$2,000,000 was
16 allocated from lottery funds.

17 Meanwhile, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, as well as
18 most state and community colleges, continue to raise tuition rates.
19 According to the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary
20 Education, annual tuition and other mandatory fees for the
21 University of Nebraska-Lincoln students increased by eight and
22 nine-tenths percent in 2002-03 and by fourteen and two-tenths
23 percent in 2003-04. Tuition is expected to rise again in 2004-05.
24 Other public institutions throughout the state have made similar
25 tuition increases.

26 It is the intent of the Legislature that this interim

1 study will determine the amount of additional state aid necessary
2 to allow all qualified low income students the opportunity to
3 pursue a university or college education.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE
5 NINETY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

6 1. That the Education Committee of the Legislature shall
7 be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes
8 of this resolution.

9 2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its
10 study make a report of its findings, together with its
11 recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.